

United States Government

Department of Energy  
Bonneville Power Administration

# memorandum

DATE: 5/23/00

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KECN-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-27)

TO: Mark Shaw - KEWN-4  
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

**Proposed Action:** Asotin Creek Watershed FY 2000 Riparian Plantings, Fencing, and Alternative Water Development Projects

**Project No:** 2000-053-00 and 2000-054-00

**Budget No:** F5592, F5594

**Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS):** 2.1 Maintain Healthy Riparian Plant Communities, 2.2 Plant/Protect Conifers in Riparian Areas for Thermal Cover, 2.4 Provide Filter Strips to Catch Sediment and Other Pollutants, 2.14 Enhance Large Woody Debris Recruitment, 6.2 Planned Grazing System, 6.3 Control Grazing Intensity, 6.4 Pasture and Hayland Management.

**Location:** Various locations in the Asotin Creek Watershed, WA.

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), and the Asotin County Conservation District (ACCD).

**Description of the Proposed Action:** 2000 Asotin Creek Watershed Projects include riparian tree and shrub plantings and riparian fencing projects which could include water developments with water troughs. Project objectives include improved streambank stability, reduced stream temperature and fecal coliform levels that will compliment previous riparian and in-stream habitat projects. Project goals include reducing pre-spawner adult mortality, increasing egg incubation success and increasing juvenile salmonid survival within the Asotin Creek Watershed.

Planting of trees and shrubs will take place in the fall of 2000 and spring of 2001 along Asotin Creek, northfork, southfork, Lick, Charley and George Creeks. Monitoring will evaluate success of different planting techniques and plant materials, as well as their cost-effectiveness. Riparian fencing project sites include the mainstem of Asotin, southfork, Charley, Nims, Pintler and George Creeks. Monitoring will include evaluation of before, while and after project photo plots of riparian development and basic habitat measurements.

**Analysis:** The compliance checklist for this project was completed by the ACCD and meets the standards and guidelines for the Watershed Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD).

Steelhead have been known to spawn throughout the mainstem of Asotin Creek, upstream of the mouth of George Creek. No consultation is needed because riparian plantings and fencing projects

should have no effect on threatened or endangered species on or in Asotin Creek. ACCD will consult with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) on stream crossing sites.

No known cultural resources are listed on State Historical Preservation Officer's database for these locations. If during site investigation or fence installation cultural resources are found, Natural Resources Conservation Service policy and procedures will be followed.

**Findings:** The project is generally consistent with Section 7.6 A, A1, A2, 7.6B, B1-B6, 7.6C, 7.6D, 7.7 & 7.7A, of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. The attached Supplement Analysis finds 1) that the proposed actions are substantially consistent with the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265) and ROD, and; 2) that there are no new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed actions or their impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

s/s Tish Levesque

Tish K. Levesque

Environmental Specialist - KECN

CONCUR: s/s Robert Beraud

Thomas C. McKinney

NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: 5/23/00

**Attachments:**

NEPA Compliance Checklist

Asotin Creek Model Watershed FY 2000 Riparian Fencing Projects

Asotin Creek Model Watershed FY 2000 Riparian Planting Projects